

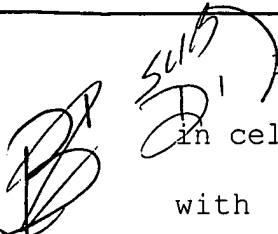
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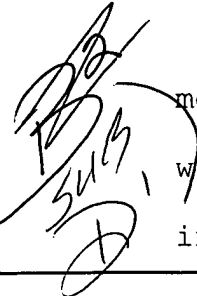
RTS-0236  
Ward and Watt  
10/007,078  
November 8, 2001

In the Claims:

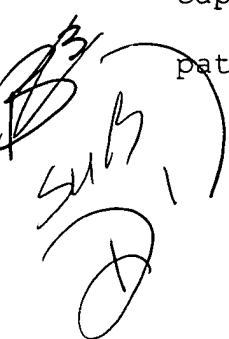
Please cancel claims 16-19 without prejudice.

Please amend the claims as follows:

 15. (amended) A method of inhibiting the expression of EIF2C1 in cells or tissues comprising contacting cells or tissues *in vitro* with the compound of claim 1 so that expression of EIF2C1 is inhibited.

 20. (amended) A method of modulating the process of RNA-mediated interference (RNAi) in a cell comprising contacting a cell with the compound of claim 1 so that expression of EIF2C1 is inhibited.

Please add the following new claims:

 -21. A method of interfering with a function of RNA in a cell comprising contacting a cell with an antisense compound capable of modulating an endogenous RNA-mediated interference pathway.

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22. The method of claim 21 wherein the function of RNA is translation of protein from said RNA.

23. The method of claim 22 wherein the antisense compound is an antisense oligonucleotide.

24. The method of claim 23 wherein the antisense oligonucleotide specifically hybridizes with a nucleic acid molecule encoding EIF2C1 and inhibits the expression of EIF2C1.

25. The method of claim 24 wherein the antisense oligonucleotide comprises at least an 8-nucleobase portion of SEQ ID NO: 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 83, 84, 86, 87 or 88.

26. A method of inhibiting translation initiation in a cell comprising contacting a cell with an effective amount of the compound of claim 1 so that expression of a nucleic acid molecule encoding EIF2C1 is reduced and translation initiation is inhibited.